

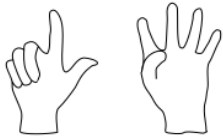


# Add & Sub – Fingers I

**Math Concepts:** Add / Subtract numbers 1 - 10  
**Materials:** None  
**Players:** 1+

## – FINGER ADDITION TO 10 –

Use  $4 + 2$  to see two methods for doing beginning addition on your fingers..

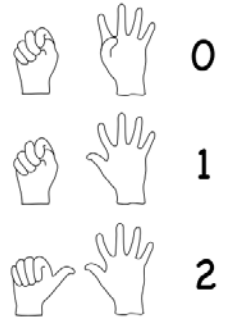


**Method 1:** Use this method if both numbers are 5 or less. Put up 4 fingers on one hand and 2 fingers on the other. Bring the two hands together. Tada! Your student sees that 4 and 2 brought together becomes 6.

**Method 2:** Use “counting on” from one of the numbers to reach any sum up to 10.

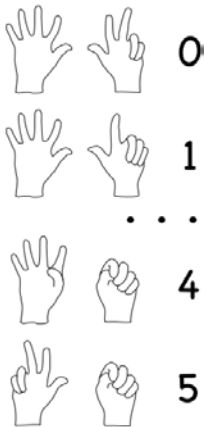
To add 4 and 2, put up 4 fingers on one hand, and count aloud from 0 to 2. For each spoken number after 0, put up one more finger. When 2 is reached, there should be 6 fingers raised.

This method allows addition of numbers bigger than 5. It’s easier to start with the larger number of fingers raised and count on using the smaller number.



## – FINGER SUBTRACTION TO 10 –

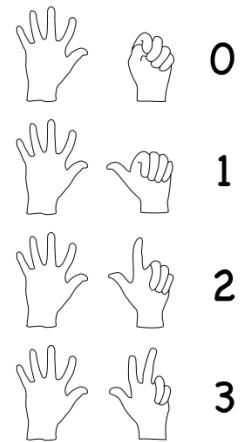
There are two mental models for subtraction – “take away” and “difference.” Your student should be comfortable with both models. Here is  $8 - 5$  calculated both ways:



**Take away (on the left):** Think of  $8 - 5$  as what is left after you start with 8 things and take 5 of them away. Start with 8 fingers raised. Next, count aloud from 0 to 5, and for each number after 0 put one finger down. When 5 is reached in the count, there will be three fingers left up.

**Difference (on the right):** This model views  $8 - 5$  as finding the difference or distance between the two numbers. Start with 5 fingers raised. Then count the new fingers being raised, and when there are 8 fingers raised the difference of 3 will have been counted.

This method uses the “counting on” addition method to find the number to add to 5 to get 8.



Mix in problems where a number is subtracted from itself, and where 0 is being subtracted.

